

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

After the foregoing Amendments, Claims 32, 34, 38, and 41-44 are currently pending in this application. Claims 1-31, 33, 35-37, 39 and 40 have been canceled without prejudice. Applicant reserves the right to file a divisional of the non-elected subject matter of canceled claims 4, 11, 14-17, 21 and 24. Claim 32 has been amended in order to more distinctly claim subject matter which the Applicants regard as the invention and to overcome matters brought forth by the Examiner. Claim 41 has been amended to depend on claim 32. Claims 34, 42, and 44 have been amended to correct minor informalities. Applicants submit that no new matter has been introduced into the application by these amendments.

**Allowable Subject Matter**

The Examiner is thanked for indicating that claims 34, 38, and 42-44 contain allowable subject matter.

**Claim Objections**

The Examiner objected to claims 40 and 41 for being dependent on a rejected base claim. Claim 40 has been incorporated into claim 32 and 41 has been amended to depend on claim 32, making the objection to claims 40 and 41 moot.

**Applicant:** Drapkin et al.  
**Application No.:** 09/651,944

**Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102 (e)**

Claim 32 stands rejected under 35 USC § 102 (e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,973,967 to Nguyen et al. (hereinafter "Nguyen"). Claim 40 has been incorporated into claim 32, making the rejection moot.

Claim 41 is dependent upon claim 32, which the Applicants believe is allowable over the cited prior art of record for the same reasons provided above.

Based on the arguments presented above, withdrawal of the 35 USC § 102 (e) rejection of claim 32 is respectfully requested.

**Conclusion**

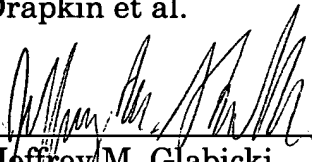
If the Examiner believes that any additional minor formal matters need to be addressed in order to place this application in condition for allowance, or that a telephone interview will help to materially advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone at the Examiner's convenience.

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In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Drapkin et al.

By   
Jeffrey M. Glabicki  
Registration No. 42,584

Volpe and Koenig, P.C.  
United Plaza, Suite 1600  
30 South 17th Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19103  
Telephone: (215) 568-6400  
Facsimile: (215) 568-6499

JMG/HV/yil